

Service Date: December 17, 2003

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER OF TRIANGLE TELEPHONE)	UTILITY DIVISION
COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC., and)	
CENTRAL MONTANA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,)	DOCKET NO. D2002.10.132
Application for EAS, Exchange to Exchange and)	
Regional, for the Havre, Lewistown, White Sulphur)	ORDER NO. 6524
Springs, and Great Falls, Montana, areas.)	

PROTECTIVE ORDER

On December 3, 2003, Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc., and Central Montana Communications, Inc. (Triangle and Central), filed a Request for Protective Order to govern certain information expected to be filed in the above-entitled proceeding. Triangle and Central request protection of traffic data, customer information, revenues, certain cost analysis and rate design data, details of service offerings, and strategic market plans. Triangle and Central argue that the identified information is trade secret in accordance with § 30-14-402, MCA. Triangle and Central argue that uncontrolled disclosure of the information may allow competitors to target high volume areas served by Triangle and Central.

The Public Service Commission (PSC) determines Triangle and Central have shown good and sufficient cause in fact and law that the information for which protection is requested is entitled to protection from uncontrolled public disclosure pursuant to § 69-3-105, MCA. Therefore, the PSC grants the Triangle and Central request and hereby orders that information submitted in accordance with this order be treated as "confidential information" under the terms of this order and PSC protective order rules, ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030.

Done and dated this 9th day of December, 2003, by a vote of 5-0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice-Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Connie Jones
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: There is no reconsideration of the granting of a protective order. There is a procedure to challenge the provider's claim of confidentiality. See ARM 38.2.5008.

Montana Public Service Commission
Protective Orders and Protection of Confidential Information

Nondisclosure Agreement

(7-26-00)
ARM 38.2.5012

Docket No. D2002.10.132, Order No. 6524
Order Action Date: December 17, 2003

I understand that in my capacity as counsel or expert witness for a party to this proceeding before the commission, or as a person otherwise lawfully so entitled, I may be called upon to access, review, and analyze information which is protected as confidential information. I have reviewed ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030 (commission rules applicable to protection of confidential information) and protective orders governing the protected information that I am entitled to receive. I fully understand, and agree to comply with and be bound by, the terms and conditions thereof. I will neither use nor disclose confidential information except for lawful purposes in accordance with the governing protective order and ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030 so long as such information remains protected.

I understand that this nondisclosure agreement may be copied and distributed to any person having an interest in it and that it may be retained at the offices of the provider, commission, consumer counsel, any party and may be further and freely distributed.

Typed or Printed Name

Signature

Date of Signature

Business Address:

Employer

Party Represented